

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 26 JUL 1949

SUBJECT 1. Reorganization of Labor Exchange Offices
2. Labor Propaganda for School Graduates
3. Steps toward Collective Farming

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1. Czech labor exchange offices, whose structure has not changed since the German Occupation, have been the subject of reorganization plans since January 1949, though no changes had been effected up to mid-April. In accordance with the law relating to the organization of Regional and District National Committees (ONV and KNV), they are to be converted into labor and social departments of these Committees. Provincial labor exchange offices are being disbanded.
2. Since January 1949 the labor exchange offices have been propagandizing in favor of the so-called "neglected trades", and trade selection advisory boards have been established to influence the job choices of 90,000 students who are expected to graduate this year. These boards stress the opportunities for youth in agriculture and in the textile, mining, and building industries. Consultations with youths and parents are held. Special groups (Agitky) of the Czech Youth Federation (SCM: Svaz Ceske Mladeze) and the Boy and Girl Scouts (Junak) will run propaganda drives supported by press and radio. Decisive results are expected from psychological pressure on parents, which has previously proved effective (in the campaigns for the 1948 elections, acquisition of new Communist Party members, etc.).
3. Both the Czech Government and the Czech Communist Party are exerting pressure for the universal establishment of branches of the Federated Agricultural Cooperatives (JZD: Jednotne Zemedelske Druzstvo). All possible resources are being employed in cooperation with the SNB.
4. These JZD branches are to be the cells for future collective farms in the Soviet manner. Those who refuse to join voluntarily will not receive allocations of agricultural machines and necessities and will be prevented by every means from fulfilling their delivery contracts. Such breach of contract may lay them open to charges of sabotage and/or confiscation of their farms. Owners of farms over 20 hectares are being deprived of labor, the workers being sent to State Farms.
5. The former Mountain Pasture Cooperatives (HPD: Horska Pastvinarska Druzstva) are being taken over and converted into State Farms and later are to become sheep farms.

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